

DAVIS GETS FOOD PROFITEERING DATA

Prepared to Show Middlemen
Add 21 Per Cent. to
Producing Cost.

ANXIOUS OVER HOUSING

Sees Shortage as Barrier to
Mediation in Labor
Struggle.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau,
Washington, D. C., April 13.
Secretary of Labor Davis is ready
to lay before Congress a great mass
of information on price increases when
a special committee is named to in-
vestigate living costs as recommended
by President Harding in his message
to the special session.

Mr. Davis now has available reports
indicating that approximately 21 per
cent. is added to the cost of food and
necessities somewhere between the pro-
ducer and the wholesale dealer, or ap-
proximately \$200,000,000 on a food bill
of \$15,000,000,000 a year, according to one
estimate.

The data collected by Mr. Davis's de-
partment indicates that the average
increase over the pre-war margin
on retail food is about 8 per cent. Re-
ports of the Labor Department show
the consumer is paying an average of
53 per cent. more than in pre-war days
for food, while the wholesale price is
about 50 per cent. above the pre-war
period. The popular belief is and has
been that retail dealers were making
enormous profits.

Farmers are receiving an average of
23 per cent. more than in pre-war days,
leaving a discrepancy of 30 per cent. be-
tween the level paid to wholesalers and
that paid to the farmers. Middlemen
are believed to be absorbing the larger
portion of margin between cost and
selling price. Although the price of
basic commodities to the producer has
been considerably reduced, the consum-
ing public has yet received only partial
benefit from the deflation, the President
emphasized in his message.

Wool, leather, rubber, live stock,
poultry, dairy products and cereals in
most cases are bringing their producers
a return even lower than in pre-war
days, while prices have not gone down
proportionately to the consumers for
shoes, meats, eggs and butter, bread
and the like. Clothing has recorded the
largest retail price drop, but it is re-
called that retail clothing prices during
the war soared more than 200 per cent.
Secretary Davis believes rents should
be reduced as the biggest factor in the
general cost of living. He said to-day
that the failure of the country to make
much of a dent in the nationwide hous-
ing shortage is the greatest barrier to
mediation of labor struggles and the
bringing of peace in the industrial world.
His reports indicate that the increase
in rents during the war was smaller in
percentage than in most necessities.

The data collected by his department
covers monthly reports of prices of rep-
resentative articles of food, clothing,
drugs, household furnishings in more
than fifty large cities in both retail and
wholesale markets.

The most recent reports show that the
percentage by which retail prices have
exceeded the pre-war rates are as
follows:

Sirloin steak, 51 per cent. advance on
the pre-war price; round steak, 53 per
cent.; rib roast, 48 per cent.; plate beef,
29 per cent.; pork chops, 56 per cent.;
bacon, 66 per cent.; ham, 79 per cent.;
lamb, 81 per cent.; hens, 101 per cent.;
eggs, 39 per cent.; butter, 48 per cent.;
cheese, 71 per cent.; milk, 73 per cent.;
bread, 29 per cent.; rice, 21 per cent.;
potatoes, 53 per cent., and tea, 31 per
cent.

AGREE TO ARBITRATE P. R. R. WAGE REDUCTION

Train and Yard Service Men
Suggest Review.

PITTSBURGH, April 13.—In declining
to accept the management's proposal to
reduce wages late to-day representatives
of the train and yard service employees
of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company
requested that the question at issue be
referred to the joint reviewing commit-
tee of the system. The road's repre-
sentatives replied that the management
was in hearty accord with the plan.

C. E. Musser, general chairman, lines
East, of the workers' representatives,
pointed out to the management's com-
mittee of the road that, while to-day's con-
ference had failed to reach an agreement,
all the means provided for the peaceful
settlement of controversies within the
railroad family had not been exhausted
as far as the train service employees
are concerned. He then suggested that
the question be referred to the joint
reviewing committee of the system,
which was established early this year
by the management and general chair-
man of the train and engine service
employees.

Wage reductions suggested to-day by
the managers for the train service
workers, numbering 25,000, approxi-
mated \$1 a day. In addition to the pro-
posed wage cuts the management asked
that punitive overtime in all service
paying road freight rates be abrogated.

REJECT 20 PER CENT. CUT.

PHILADELPHIA, April 13.—Clerical and
station forces of the Philadelphia and
Reading Railway to-day rejected a 20
per cent. cut. The action of the men
ends the matter to the Railroad Labor
Board.

MARINE ENGINEERS FACING WAGE CUTS

Strike Threat Looms as the
Ship Owners Press Re-
ductions.

CONFERENCE ON TO-DAY

60,000 Men Affected by Pro-
posals for New Working
Rules.

Reductions in wages of from 20 to 20

per cent., effective May 1, were proposed
yesterday by the American Steamship
Owners Association to representatives
of the Marine Engineers Beneficial As-
sociation at a meeting at 17 Battery
place. After the meeting the officials
representing the 12,000 marine engi-
neers affected said that the proposed
wage scale and working agreement would
not be acceptable to the men. Negotia-
tions will be continued to-morrow. Un-
less one or both sides receive consider-
ably from their present position there
is prospect of a strike of 60,000 engi-
neers, oilers, cooks and stewards on
transatlantic and food delivery ships on
both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts.

Steamship owners regard the proposed
working rules as important in the proper
upkeep of American vessels. One of the
rules says that "it shall be the duty of
all licensed engineers to make all possi-
ble repairs on board vessels; ten hours'
duty each day at sea, i. e., two hours in
addition to engine room watch may be
required of all licensed engineers for the
purpose of making repairs and the pro-
moting of economical operations." The
existence of a similar rule before the
war, according to the ship owners, made
American ships the most economically
operated in the world.

Another clause in the rules offered
to the engineers says that "these rules
are not to be understood to permit dis-
crimination against the employment of
any engineer on account of affiliation or
non-affiliation with any labor organi-
zation." Union officials regard this as
a plain declaration for the open shop,
and declare they will resist it to the
last.

The proposed wage scale means a re-
duction from \$332.50 to \$290 a month
for chief engineers on Class A ships.
On Class C ships it means a reduction
to \$250, while \$233 is paid on British
ships, \$220 on Japanese ships and \$221
on Norwegian ships. The first assist-
ant engineer, it is proposed, shall draw
\$130 a month on Class A ships.
Darragh Delaney of Washington, di-
rector of industrial relations of the
United States Shipping Board, attended
the conference. The Shipping Board
controls four-sevenths of the ships ef-
fected by the proposed new agreement.
Because of Admiral W. S. Benson's re-
cent declaration for economy in op-
eration the proposals of the ship owners
are believed to have the sanction of
the Shipping Board.

CZAR'S AID DEFIES BRINDELL'S THREAT

Stadtmuller Pleads He Was
Told to Slay Guilty.

Peter Stadtmuller, delegate to the
house shores' union in the Building
Trades Council, and who was jointly in-
dicted with Robert P. Brindell on a
charge of extortion and coercion, de-
clared yesterday in the presence of his
attorneys that Brindell had threatened
to cancel the \$100,000 bond collateral he
had furnished Stadtmuller for bail un-
less the latter agreed to plead guilty.
Stadtmuller said that this threat in the Tombs,
Stadtmuller said, before the "czar" of
the Building Trades Council was sent
to Sing Sing.

Stadtmuller is facing trial with Brin-
dell on May 9. Declaring his innocence,
Stadtmuller says he will not plead
guilty, as he had nothing to do with
Brindell's schemes and delivered no
threatening messages from Brindell to
any contractor, as charged.

"A couple of weeks ago I had a con-
ference with Brindell in the Tombs, and
he told me if I pleaded guilty it could
be arranged so that I would only get a
sentence of from thirty days to three
months," said Stadtmuller. Thomas J.
O'Neil and Benjamin W. Moore of 353
Broadway, Stadtmuller's counsel, be-
lieve that Brindell is anxious to have
Stadtmuller plead guilty, hoping to then
obtain immunity for himself.
Brindell yesterday deposited a bank
account of \$200 in the Sing Sing prison
office. He is limited to the purchase
of \$10 worth of goods a month at the
prison store. His two trunks, contain-
ing wearing apparel, which he sent to
Sing Sing, were returned yesterday to
his home in The Bronx on order of
Warden Lawes.

BLIND VISIT WHITE HOUSE.

Hardings to Receive Students to
Start \$2,000,000 Drive.

President and Mrs. Harding will re-
ceive to-day at the White House Miss
Winifred Holt, who has been working
for fifteen years for the relief and edu-
cation of the blind, and the Misses Jen-
nie Williams and Veronica E. Masicka,
blind orphan students of the New York
Association for the Blind. The students
have made special examples of their
work in sewing and weaving to give to
the President and his wife.

The reception at the White House
will be the first step in a campaign to
raise \$2,000,000 for the study and care
of blindness and the instruction of the
blind. Eliza Root is honorary chair-
man of the Committee for Lightness
for the Blind, which will conduct the
campaign.

Things Decidedly New



The Daintiest of
Envelope Chemise

are developed in blue and
orchid Crepe de Chine—as Paris
commands. And the colors
are so delicately appealing
that no trimming is needed.
save tiny tucks and bows of
Lacy Fair ribbon. 4.95

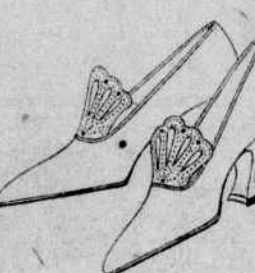
Third Floor



A Sterling Silver
Bracelet

of tiny beads looks around for
something new to dangle, and
strikes on a miniature menag-
erie, suspended by slender chains.
And each charm gleams beguiling-
ly because of the rhinestones
with which it is set. 10.50

Main Floor



A New Tongue Pump
for Women

speaks in a language every woman
will understand—the lan-
guage of smartness. Black suede
translates the message—and the
tongue is embroidered in steel
beads that relieve the severity
of the black. 13.50

Second Floor



INTRODUCING
A New Tub Frock

like a flower in many ways—
first in coloring, then in the
way it greets washing—like
a flower greets the rain—
coming out clearer and fresher
for the use of water. The sur-
plice waist is made on a lining and
has an inner belt. Developed of
fine chambray in pink, maize,
green, blue, and lavender,
with collar and cuffs of or-
gandie. Sizes 18 to 44. 4.50

Third Floor



A Leather-Applied
Sports Hat

is unusually smart in its sim-
ple lines. It uses as a basis
Canton Crepe in any shade
you wish, the brim with box
stitched folds; and to achieve
contrast appliques a design and
banding of black patent leather.
Stunning! and only 10.95

Third Floor

Saks & Company

Broadway at 34th Street

Specialists in Apparel

As a Special Introduction to Our Enlarged Department for the Presentation
of Fashionable Skirts for Misses and Women, We Offer

FOR THREE DAYS ONLY—A WONDERFUL COLLECTION OF

Smart Skirts for Street and Sports Wear

AT FAR BELOW THE REGULAR PRICES

At 5.00—Cotton Gabardine and
Surf Satin Skirts in gay little
button trimmed models—smart and
suitable for sport wear.

At 8.75—Smartly Tailored White
Flannel Skirts—soft and cool and
quite ideal for all sorts of Summer
wear. In light shades, too.

At 8.75—Sport Skirts of Lustrous
Baronette Satin in three distinctly
modish models—all smart and be-
coming. In navy blue, black, white
and high shades.

Our present stock exhibits skirts in every material now in
demand—at very reasonable prices—

Roshanara Crepe, Canton Crepe, Silk Faille, Tally Ho, Egyptian Crepe, Crepe de
Chine and Baronette Satin—also a complete assortment of skirts in flannel,
linen, cotton, gabardine, surf satin and knitted worsteds. Fourth Floor



Now Being Featured
on the
Second Floor

"Regent" Pumps

FOR WOMEN
at 10.50

A pump which follows closely in the footsteps
of the Mode. Made in the most expert man-
ner of brown or beige suede, brown kid, patent
coltskin, gun metal or tan Russia Calfskin.
All sizes and widths. Illustrated.

Also—
for Misses

The Athena Pump at 7.00

Slender, smart and youthful, this comfortable
pump achieves distinction by means of its
simple little strap, medium low heel and grace-
ful lines. In bronze, patent, white or gun
metal leather. Illustrated. Second Floor

WOMEN'S IMPORTED SCOTCH

Wool Hose

—made of the finest quality Scotch wool in
rich plaids, stripes and novelty rib effects.
All full-fashioned.

3.95 to 7.50 a pair

WOMEN'S IMPORTED SCOTCH

Golf Hose

—the largest assortment of Women's Golf Hose
to be seen in New York—in smart plaids and
dark colorings—also white.

3.95 to 7.50 a pair

Main Floor

A Special Sale Of

"Heatherbloom" Petticoats

At 2.00

Made of finest quality material, either quaintly
flowered, or in solid colors trimmed with con-
trasting shades—and all made with a dainty
accordion pleated flounce.

For Extra Sized Women

Silk and Jersey Top Petticoats at 3.95

Cut full width and made with a smart taffeta
flounce. Navy, black and all smart street shades. Third Floor

Women's Canton Crepe, Crepe de Chine, Taffeta
and Poiret Twill

FROCKS

Regularly 55.00 to 69.50

Reduced to
39.50

The fact that we
have perhaps only
three or four frocks
of any one model
is the reason for
this timely sale.

The models are
beautifully con-
ceived and well
made—the fabrics
the most favored
for Spring—the
colors lovely: beige,
silver gray, cafe
au lait, brown—
and a few in navy
or black. Sizes 34
to 42, but not in
every model.



New Paris-Made Cotton Frocks

in French or English voiles, made by hand
in Paris 18.50 to 45.00

Frocks of Imported Swiss Organdie

or dotted muslins, Scotch ginghams with organ-
die or taffeta combinations. 15.00 to 49.50
Fourth Floor

The Saks Luggage Department

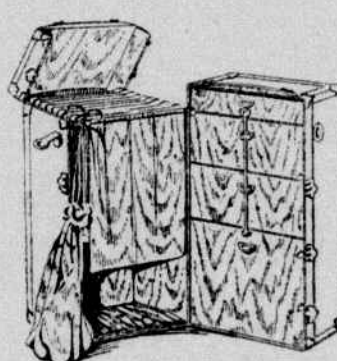
Offers Today

Finely Constructed

Wardrobe

Trunks

Regularly 100.00



Special at 79.70

Price includes tax. A completely equipped full-
size Wardrobe Trunk that will give a life-time
of service. Five-ply veneer construction,
trimmed with the heaviest of hardware through-
out, and special locking device. Illustrated.

Basement

Special Reductions In

HAIR NETS

OF FINEST HUMAN HAIR

Now 85c dozen

Each net made of real human hair and each net
guaranteed perfect. Both fringe and cap shapes
—in all shades except gray and white.

Main and Third Floors

Thursday we offer

1000 Girdles Special 75c

—in very delightful combinations of metal and
enamel-finish. The colors are beautiful—red,
jade, Harding Blue, Ambre, coral and black.

Jewelry Dept., Main Floor

CHAMBRAY

Bloomer Dresses

for Little Tots

At 2.65

—are made to resist the
hardest wear in the gay-
est fashion, because they
are of strong material
carefully put together
and daintily hand em-
broided, collared and
cuffed in contrasting
shades.

Pink, with white collars and cuffs, Copenhagen
blue with corn, or corn with Copenhagen blue.
Sizes 2 to 6 years.

Fourth Floor



The move uptown brings prices down

"The Gift Shop of Fifth
Avenue" will be more con-
veniently placed for you
when it moves to 39th Street
and 5th Avenue. Until then,
you will be repaid by the
discounts for what you may
miss in convenience. For as
long as our old home is open,
discounts of 10%—20%
—30%—40% and 50% pre-
vail upon all the charming
things for which Irvington's
is so well and widely
known.

IRVINGTON'S

"The Gift Shop of Fifth Avenue"

312-314 Fifth Ave. Near 32nd St.